

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

1 A dynamic clamp 200 selectively clamps overshoot on a signal line 100
2 when overshoot is likely, while not clamping the received signal at times when
3 overshoot is not likely encountered. A Driver Disable signal 102 disables the
4 output of an output driver 110 so that it presents a high impedance to the signal
5 line 100. An activation element 310 asserts a Clamp Enable signal 311, for
6 example, in response to a transition of the received signal that occurs, for
7 example, during a period in which a corresponding Driver Disable signal 102 is
8 asserted. A deactivation element 320 asserts a Clamp Disable signal 321, for
9 example, a predetermined deactivation delay period after the Clamp Enable
10 signal 311 is asserted. A clamping portion 330 selectively clamps the received
11 signal 100 beginning with the assertion of the Clamp Enable signal and ending
12 with the assertion of the Clamp Disable signal. ~~The dynamic clamp 200 is~~
13 ~~especially suitable for use in backplane environments, in which signals on path~~
14 ~~100 originating from a driver not located on the same card 130 as the dynamic~~
15 ~~clamp would have overshoot, ringing, and other undesirable transmission line~~
16 ~~characteristics. Additional features of the clamp ensure that other circuit~~
17 ~~specifications (such as, for example, overvoltage tolerance and I_{off} current~~
18 ~~specifications) are not compromised.~~